

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-15

RESOLUTION TO URGE THE SOUTH DAKOTA LEGISLATURE TO APPROVE THE
**JOINT RESOLUTION PROVIDING LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL FOR A FUTURE USE
WATER PERMIT APPLICATION BY THE LEWIS & CLARK REGIONAL WATER SYSTEM**

WHEREAS, the Lewis & Clark Regional Water System (L&C) currently has a total of 47.7 million gallons a day (MGD) of ground water rights from the Missouri-Elk Point Aquifer (53,442 acre feet/year), and

WHEREAS, in 2022 L&C started construction to expand the System from 44.19 MGD to 60 MGD, which is expected to be completed in 2031, and

WHEREAS, in April 2023 L&C submitted an application to the South Dakota Department of Agriculture & Natural Resources (DANR) for an additional 17.07 MGD (19,121 acre feet/year), which accounting for treatment and line losses is the amount of additional capacity needed in order to deliver 60 MGD of firm capacity, and

WHEREAS, DANR and the South Dakota Geological Survey conducted their analysis, which led to an approval recommendation of L&C's application based on three factors: 1.) there is enough capacity in the Missouri – Elk Point Aquifer, 2.) there is a demonstrated need for the capacity and the need would be a beneficial use of the water, and 3.) existing water rights will not be impaired, and

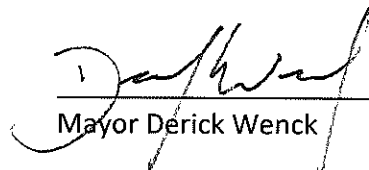
WHEREAS, there was a public comment period on L&C's application and no comments were submitted, and

WHEREAS, State statute requires legislative approval for any water right application that exceeds 10,000 acre feet before the South Dakota Water Management Board can take final action, which last occurred in 1994 and coincidentally was for L&C, and

WHEREAS, the South Dakota Water Management Board at their July 12, 2023 hearing voted unanimously to present L&C's application to the Legislature with an approval recommendation.

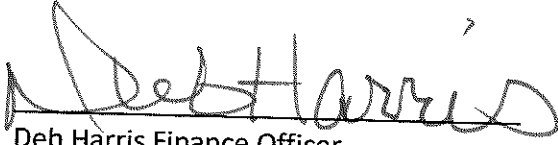
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the City of Harrisburg respectfully urges the South Dakota Legislature during the 2024 session to approve the Joint Resolution in support of L&C's future use water permit.

Dated this 19th day of December 2023 :



Mayor Derick Wenck

ATTEST:


Deb Harris Finance Officer



Publish: December 28, 2023

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